

[Translation]

Survey for Development of Railways in Backward Areas

908. SHRI TARACHAND BHAGORA :
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY :
SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI SANAT MEHTA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for the development/expansion of Railways in backward, hilly, tribal and desert areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Zone-wise and State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of the schemes prepared in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

[English]

Maintenance of Railway Colonies

909. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the railway colonies at Guwahati and Maligaon are not being maintained properly and lacking basic amenities;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for proper maintenance and to provide basic amenities in these Railway colonies;

(d) whether funds were released for this purpose during the last three years; and

(e) if so, how those funds were utilised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) The railway colonies at Guwahati and Maligaon are being maintained properly and do not lack in basic amenities.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A Colony Care Committee consisting of Representatives of staff and officials of Railway Administration, looks after the needs of the railway colonies and works of repairs/maintenance are carried out as per decision of the Committee. In addition, colonies are inspected at various levels and deficiencies, if any, are removed.

(d) Yes Sir.

(e) The funds were utilised for execution of works of maintenance and proper upkeep of the colonies.

Unscrupulous STD Operators

910. DR. M. JAGANNATH :
SHRI K.S. RAYADU :

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Unscrupulous STD booth operators loot public" appearing in the 'News Time' dated January 8, 1997;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the action taken to stop users of public telephone being cheated by unscrupulous operators?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Exchanges in U.P.

911. SHRI RAMSAGAR : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the answer given to USQ no. 2014 dated 5.12.96 regarding "modernisation of exchanges in U.P." and state :

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of proposal for modernisation of Telephone Exchanges in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and its suburban during 1996-97 is given in statement-I. The details of proposal for expansion of exchanges in the above States during 1996-97 is given in statement-II.

(c) Action as per (b) above.

Statement-I

Proposal for modernisation of telephone exchanges during 1996-97

S.No.	Name of exchanges	Type	Capacities
1	2	3	4
UTTAR PRADESH			
1.	Kanpur-Krishnanagar	Strowger	3000
2.	Kanpur-Lajpat Nagar	Crossbar	4000